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PATENT
29985/01-059

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT
AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s):

HoudeSerial No.: 10/043,052 ✓

Filed: January 9, 2002

For: Fluid Management Valve

Group Art Unit: Unassigned

Examiner: Unassigned

) I hereby certify that this paper is being
) deposited with the United States Postal
) Service with sufficient postage as first
) class mail in an envelope addressed to:
) Commissioner for Patents, Washington,
D.C. 20231 on this date: May 6, 2002

Thomas A. Miller
Registration No. 40,091
Attorney for Applicant(s)

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The patents and/or publications listed on the enclosed PTO Form 1449 are submitted pursuant to 37 CFR §§ 1.56, 1.97, and 1.98. Copies of the patents or publications are enclosed as necessary.

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3700

TIME OF FILING

This information disclosure statement is being filed:

1. with the application or within three months of the filing date of the application or date of entry into the national stage of an international application or, to the best of the undersigned's knowledge, before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, whichever event occurs last. In accordance with 37 CFR §1.97(b), no certification or fee is required.
2. after the time period specified in paragraph 1 above, but, to the best of the undersigned's knowledge, before the mailing date of a final action under 37 CFR §1.113 or notice of allowance under 37 CFR §1.311. Therefore, in accordance with 37 CFR §1.97(c), submitted herewith is:

(check either A or B below)

- A. a certification as specified in 37 CFR §1.97(e).
- B. the fee set forth in 37 CFR §1.17(p) for submission of an information disclosure statement under 37 CFR §1.97(c).
3. after the mailing date of either a final action under 37 CFR §1.113 or a notice of allowance under 37 CFR §1.311, whichever occurs first, but before payment of the issue fee. Therefore, Applicant submits herewith:
- A. a certification as specified in 37 CFR §1.97(e);
- B. the petition fee set forth in 37 CFR §1.17(i); and
- C. the accompanying petition under 37 CFR §1.97(d).

CERTIFICATION

(only used if No. 2 or No. 3 above is checked)

The person(s) signing below certify

(check appropriate paragraph)

that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1).

OR

that no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(2).

PETITION

(only used if No. 3 above is checked)

Applicant(s) hereby petition(s) pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d) that this Information Disclosure Statement, Form PTO-1449, and document(s) identified therein be considered.

PRIOR AND RELATED APPLICATIONS

In accordance with 37 CFR §1.98(d), copies of the patents and publications listed on the enclosed PTO Form-1449 are not provided because the patents and publications were previously cited by, or submitted to, the Patent Office in a prior application that Applicant(s) rely upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. §120. Documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 were cited by, or submitted to, the examiner of the following patent application(s):

Applicant(s):

Serial No.

Filing Date:

Title:

Status:

Other applications related to application Serial No. are:

Applicant(s):

Serial No.

Filing Date:

Title:

Status:

METHOD OF PAYMENT

- No fee is required.
 Attached is a check in the amount of \$_____.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee deficiency required by this paper, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 13-2855. A copy of this paper is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

MARSHALL, GERSTEIN & BORUN
6300 Sears Tower
233 South Wacker Drive
Chicago, Illinois 60606-6357
(312) 474-6300

By:

Thomas A. Miller
Reg. No: 40,091

May 6, 2002

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TRANSMITTAL FORM

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)



		Application Number	10/043,052
		Filing Date	Jan. 9, 2002
		First Named Inventor	Houde
		Group Art Unit	Unassigned
		Examiner Name	Unassigned
Total Number of Pages in This Submission		Attorney Docket Number	29985/01-059

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)

<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form	<input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (for an Application)	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply	<input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)
<input type="checkbox"/> After Final	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition	<input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information
<input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter
<input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address	<input type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below)
<input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement	<input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund	
<input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application		
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53		
Remarks		

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SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm or Individual Name	Marshall, Gerstein & Borun 6300 Sears Tower 233 South Wacker Drive Chicago, IL 60606-6357
Signature	Thomas A. Miller, Reg. No. 40,091
Date	May 6, 2002

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231, on the date shown below.

Dated: May 6, 2002 Signature:

(Name of Signer) Thomas A. Miller



PTO/SB/08A (10-01)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO				<i>Complete if Known</i>	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Application Number	10/043,052
				Filing Date	Jan. 9, 2002
				First Named Inventor	Houde
				Art Unit	Unassigned
				Examiner Name	Unassigned
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	
29985/01-059					

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	Date Entered
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	B1	WO 99/24094	05/20/1999	EPO	700	2007
	B2	WO 00/53242	09/14/2000	EPO		

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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***EXAMINER:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See attached Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the application number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

OTHER PRIOR ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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***EXAMINER:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered.